

### § 550.103

practices which presently have or prospectively could create conditions unfavorable to shipping in the foreign trade of the United States, or when owners, operators, agents or masters of foreign vessels engage in or intend to engage in competitive methods, pricing practices or other practices which have created or could create such conditions.

[64 FR 8009, Feb. 18, 1999]

### § 550.103 Definitions.

When used in this part:

(a) *Act* means the Merchant Marine Act, 1920, as amended by Pub. L. 101-595 and as amended by Pub. L. 105-258.

(b) *Person* means individuals, corporations, partnerships and associations existing under or authorized by the laws of the United States or of a foreign country, and includes any common carrier, tramp operator, bulk operator, shipper, shippers' association, importer, exporter, consignee, ocean transportation intermediary, marine terminal operator, or any component of the Government of the United States.

(c) *Voyage* means an inbound or outbound movement between a foreign country and the United States by a vessel engaged in the United States oceanborne trade. Each inbound or outbound movement constitutes a separate voyage.

[58 FR 64910, Dec. 10, 1993. Redesignated and amended at 64 FR 8008, 8009, Feb. 18, 1999]

### § 550.104 Confidentiality.

Notwithstanding any other law, the Commission may refuse to disclose to the public a response or other information provided under the terms of this part.

### § 550.105 Consultation.

(a) *Consultation with other agencies.* The Commission may consult with, seek the cooperation of, or make recommendations to other appropriate agencies prior to taking any action under this part.

(b) *Request for resolution through diplomatic channels.* Upon the filing of a petition, or on its own motion when there are indications that conditions unfavorable to shipping in the foreign

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trade of the United States may exist, the Commission may notify the Secretary of State that such conditions apparently exist, and may request that the Secretary seek resolution of the matter through diplomatic channels. If request is made, the Commission will give every assistance in such efforts, and the Commission may request the Secretary to report the results of such efforts at a specified time.

### Subpart B—Production of Information

### § 550.201 Information orders.

In furtherance of the purposes of this part—

(a) The Commission may, by order, require any person (including any common carrier, tramp operator, bulk operator, shipper, shippers' association, ocean transportation intermediary, or marine terminal operator, or any officer, receiver, trustee, lessee, agent, or employee thereof), to file with the Commission a report, answers to questions, documentary material, or other information which the Commission considers necessary or appropriate;

(b) The Commission may require a report or answers to questions to be made under oath;

(c) The Commission may prescribe the form and the time for response to a report or answers to questions.

[58 FR 64910, Dec. 10, 1993. Redesignated and amended at 64 FR 8008, 8009, Feb. 18, 1999]

### § 550.202 Type of information.

In order to aid in the determination of whether conditions unfavorable to shipping in the foreign trade of the United States exist, or in order to aid in the formulation of appropriate regulations subsequent to a finding that conditions unfavorable to shipping in the foreign trade of the United States exist, the Commission may, when it deems necessary or appropriate, and without further proceedings, order any:

(a) Owner, operator, or charterer in the affected trade to furnish any or all of the following information:

(1) Statistics for a representative period showing passengers or cargo carried to and from the United States in